

APPROVED
DECEMBER 12, 2017

Item #IV-1
December 12, 2017

**AD HOC PRIORITIES TASK FORCE SUMMATIVE REPORT
AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Submitted for: Action.

Summary: This item submits for Board action the Ad Hoc Priorities Task Force summative report and recommendations.

Action Requested: That the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE): (1) adopt the proposed template including sub-goals and action steps; and (2) authorize IBHE staff to propose a framework and timeline to the Board consistent with the sub-goals and action steps.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

**AD HOC PRIORITIES TASK FORCE SUMMATIVE REPORT
AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

As reported to the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) at its last meeting on September 19, 2017, members of the Task Force decided upon the organization of three subcommittees which would work independently to address defined areas of principal concern. Those subcommittees were:

(1) Higher Education Funding, comprised of Jay Bergman and Eric Lichtenberger. Their charge was to collect and examine information about performance funding and accountability funding from Illinois and the three states (Indiana, Kentucky and Tennessee) with which the Task Force had consulted. Messrs. Bergman and Lichtenberger would provide a report to the full Task Force at its final meeting on November 15, 2017, in preparation for submission of the final report of the Task Force to the IBHE Board.

(2) A subcommittee on the Career Outcomes Tool – about which the entire IBHE Board heard a presentation at the September 19 meeting.

(3) A subcommittee to Refine the Goals and Outcomes preliminarily outlined and presented to the IBHE Board last June. The people assigned to that subcommittee were Sherry Eagle, Jane Hays, Cheryl Murer, Darlene Ruscitti and Christine Wiseman (who chairs the Task Force). IBHE Chair Tom Cross and other IBHE and gubernatorial staff would attend as ex officio members. In particular, Dr. Al Bowman, newly appointed IBHE Executive Director, joined the Task Force in that capacity at its last three meetings.

Ms. Mollie Foust and members of the Governor's Staff would continue to meet with the Task Force and provide organizational assistance as needed.

Since the September 19 IBHE Board meeting, and in view of the broad consultative aspects required for promulgation of a successful Career Outcomes Tool, that task has been assigned to the Illinois Department of Employment Security and the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, in consultation with Eric Lichtenberger and others from the IBHE staff.

As noted earlier, the Task Force on November 15 heard a report from Jay Bergman and Eric Lichtenberger on public funding of higher education. That issue will now be addressed by a larger task force that will likely be convened by the Illinois Legislature. It will include members of the IBHE.

What remained for consideration by the Priorities Task Force was the charge assigned originally by Chair Tom Cross – and that was to arrive at five or six goals and outcomes that could be accomplished by IBHE in the next 12 to 24 months, building on the Strategic Plan (*Illinois Public Agenda for College and Career Success*) already in place.

Since the IBHE Board meeting on September 19, a series of meetings was held among subcommittee members for that purpose – the most recent being October 17, November 3 and November 8. The subcommittee worked with Ms. Mollie Foust and Ms. Lauren Burdette to analyze the Public Agenda in conjunction with the six goals originally identified and outlined by the Task Force.

Given the efforts of Mollie, Lauren and their staffs, that process was exhaustive. The 2008 Public Agenda identified a penultimate goal of 60 x 2025, but there were four goals, 8 recommendations, 20 strategies, 81 action steps and 38 different performance measures. In keeping with Best Practices learned during our consultations with the States of Indiana, Kentucky and Tennessee, the subcommittee determined that success is derived not from supplanting the earlier Strategic Plan adopted in 2008 for the State of Illinois (we are decidedly not in a position to do that and that was not our charge) – but in building on the 2008 Public Agenda and refining it in terms of what IBHE can reasonably accomplish.

Therefore, the subcommittee analyzed all of the *Public Agenda* goals, outcomes and action items in terms of the following:

- (1) Which of our IBHE goals is associated with which Public Agenda goals and action steps;
- (2) What is the status of each action step in the Public Agenda;
- (3) Which Public Agenda action steps are relevant to IBHE in terms of IBHE control and contribution;
- (4) Which Public Agenda action steps are relevant to economic growth and workforce development?

The subcommittee eliminated consideration of those *Public Agenda* action steps that were: not related to IBHE goals identified by the Task Force last June; that IBHE could not control, and that were not related to economic growth or workforce development.

The subcommittee’s work was presented to the full Task Force for discussion and deliberation at its final meeting on November 15, 2017.

The result of hours upon hours of analysis is the document attached to this memo. That document lists the four principal goals of the *Public Agenda*, and then takes our identified goals and outcomes and aligns them with the four public agenda goals (some of our original goals were combined and refined). These are listed in the second column marked, “Sub-goals for 2017-2018.” The third column outlines ten action steps that IBHE can reasonably accomplish within the next 12-24 months to move forward with or accomplish its sub-goals (thereby furthering the larger Public Agenda). And that was our charge.

IBHE staff will now propose a framework and timeline for next steps, focusing on metrics by which the IBHE Board will be able to assess progress with regards to each action step (and thus each sub-goal) throughout the duration of this plan. That concludes the immediate work of the Task Force on IBHE Priorities.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine M. Wiseman, J.D.
Task Force Chair

Recommendation

The staff recommends the adoption of the following resolution:

That the Illinois Board of Higher Education: (1) adopt the proposed template including sub-goals and action steps; and (2) authorize IBHE staff to propose a framework and timeline to the Board consistent with the sub-goals and action steps as detailed on the attached document.

ATTACHMENT

	2008 Public Agenda Goals	Sub-goals for 2017/2018	Action Steps for IBHE to complete in 2018
1	Increase educational attainment to match best-performing US states and world countries.	Reduce outmigration by improving regional competition, access, and affordability of Illinois universities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in-state high quality dual credit or college credit opportunities for all high school students. • IBHE will collect and share data on out-migration metrics to dispel myths and confirm facts, presenting real-time data back to university leadership (presidents and boards of trustees). • Based on the outmigration data, IBHE will assist in developing a strategy across all public institutions to counter out-migration.
2	Ensure college affordability for students, families, and taxpayers.	Redefine the role, responsibility, and accountability for public funding of higher education.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate that the legislature review and revise the current appropriation, including current performance-based funding, and takes into account out-migration, incentives for degree completion, and integrating the business community in meeting the economic needs of the state. • Advocate to the legislature that IBHE be the conduit for all University appropriations.
3	Increase the number of high-quality postsecondary credentials to meet the demands of the economy and an increasingly global society.	Develop incentives for community college students and adults to attain degrees.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand the best practice of increasing reverse transfer agreements. • IBHE will utilize the Community College Higher Education regions (public, private, community college, vocational) to develop a regional plan to contribute to the 60x25 goal.
4	Better integrate Illinois' educational, research, and innovation assets to meet economic needs of the state and its regions.	Integrate the business community to create policy that offers the best education to the largest number of Illinois students.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IBHE will convene groups of top business leaders, by region, to develop recommendations for their integration into higher education policy. • Dedicate an IBHE Board meeting at the JRTC for business leader participation and gather their input for partnerships. • IBHE will conduct a data analysis on the top employers of Illinois college and university graduates, and which Fortune 500 companies with significant Illinois presence are not hiring our students, sharing the data with university and college leadership.

*IBHE staff will propose a framework and timeline for next steps, particularly focusing on how IBHE Board will know they are making progress towards each step throughout the year.

